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MEMO TO FILE

Interview with John Nichols and Eric Shooter on Neurobiology at Rockefeller

Their basic comment was that there was no clear focus of excellence and innovation at the present time compared to past years. They suggested:

1. A visiting committee
2. Particular consultants like Torstin Wiesel, Steve Kuffler, Charles Stevens (now at Yale formerly at Rockefeller). Stevens they thought might be somewhat more biophysical than we need.

Some particular people as instances of who might be recruited: Paul Patterson, Harvard, now associate professor - development of sympathetic nervous system and differentiation of specific transmitter.

Alberto Aguayo, Montreal, concerned about the problems of Quebec - a senior person who would move with a group. Magnificent in myelin synthesis, also strong clinical, neurological connections.

Ira Black, who is already at CUMC, works on NGF and nervous system development and would be much interested in clinical connections. Perhaps a candidate for adjunct appointment in the hospital.

They commented, however, that collaboration hopefully would be better externally than it is internally: They saw very little intercommunication between the major groups.

Graffstein works at Cornell on the transfer of large molecules across synapses: For example, proteins from eye to cortex. Used now to trace pathways but might have deeper biological significance. Steve Waxman and Jerry Posner are other young people of some consequence probably coming to Stanford.

The best ultrastructuralist they know is Ray Gillery who has just gone to Chicago.

Gayle Purvis, now at Washington University, St. Louis.

Aguayo has a substantial group and would be a way of setting up an entire program all at once.

Blobel would be very much worth consulting for his advice.

I expressed my own concern about whom to rely upon that wouldn't be caught into their existing affiliation network.